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### UM Radio-TV students win Mark of Excellence Awards

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## **NEWS RELEASE**

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April 19, 2002

**Contact:** UM Department of Radio-Television, 243-4081.

### **UM RADIO-TV STUDENTS WIN MARK OF EXCELLENCE AWARDS**

#### **MISSOULA--**

Several University of Montana journalism student projects placed in the regional Mark of Excellence Award competition of the Society of Professional Journalists. Seven student entries placed first or second in the competition, which included schools from five states in the Northwest.

First-place winners will advance to the national competition, where they will compete with winners from 11 other regions.

Seniors Danielle Dellerson and Natalya McLees won first place for their coverage of the Florence murders under the spot news television category. The story aired on Montana PBS as part of a nightly news show produced by seniors in the Radio-TV program.

Other first-place winners were graduate student Alison Perkins and senior Jennifer Gibson, who competed in the general news-TV category. Their coverage of Montana Rides for America, a cross-country ride to raise money for the Red Cross in the wake of the Sep. 11 attacks, aired on Montanan PBS as part of a half-hour documentary on Montanans' reaction to the attacks.

Junior Johanna Feaster earned first in the radio feature category for her story on the pros and cons of skateboarding. Her story aired on KUFM radio.

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Second-place winners were seniors Ben Kaplan and Jasper Hiatt for their profile of a Muslim family living in Montana. Their story tied for second with a story by seniors Carol Wolfe and Brooke Fox on how children reacted and reached out to others after the terrorist attacks. Both stories aired as part of a half-hour Montana Journal program on Montana PBS.

Another second-place winner is Lindsey Lear, a junior who took a humorous look at the common cold. Her story, which was entered under the radio feature category, aired on KBGA.

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